



## Waverley Cemetery: Frequently Asked Questions September 2016

Waverley Cemetery is an iconic heritage site, and Council is working with our community to ensure it can be preserved for future generations.

In late 2013, Waverley Council resolved to develop a holistic vision for the future of the Cemetery. Since then, Council has prioritised repair and maintenance works at the cemetery to ensure the history and beauty of the cemetery is preserved as best as possible.

Below are answers to some Frequently Asked Questions about Waverley Cemetery, including details of recent repair and maintenance works, and future plans for the site.

### ***Will Waverley Cemetery remain an operational cemetery?***

Waverley Cemetery is owned by Waverley Council. It has always been an operational cemetery, and will continue to be into the future. 2008 was the first time Waverley Council allocated ratepayer dollars to the upkeep of the Cemetery. This was to address the backlog of infrastructure that had accrued over previous years.

We will work with residents on a combined vision for the future of the Cemetery, but for now our focus is on completing initial repairs. We are dedicating resources and funds to ensure the backlog of repairs are fixed.

### ***What repairs has Council carried out?***

We have dedicated more time and resources to the Cemetery's infrastructure backlog in the past 12 months than ever before.

Recent works include:

- roadworks to the entrance driveway and seven internal roads
- repairs to internal stairways
- improvements to five reflection shelters
- repaired and replaced some internal fencing
- installed a new fence on Fig Tree Lane

### ***What works will occur in the near future?***

The following maintenance and repair works will occur in 2016/2017:

- replace the Cemetery fence (along Trafalgar Street, Bronte)
- renovate the Cemetery gateway
- replace internal directional signage and install signs for prominent sites
- retaining wall assessment at Daley Close.

### ***What future funding does the Council have in place for the Cemetery?***

In 2008, Council was granted a rate rise, which for the



first time included some funding to deal with the Waverley Cemetery infrastructure backlog. In June 2014, approximately \$9.7 million was allocated from these funds to assist with the maintenance and repair over the next 10 years.

Repairs and maintenance works that are part of the infrastructure backlog include:

- footpaths and roads
- kerb, gutter and drains
- gully remediation.

***When will the coastal walk within the cemetery be restored?***

The Cemetery Gully that was damaged by the severe storms in June is being assessed by a structural engineer and options for remediation identified. A report outlining the options is expected to go to council in September/ October. In the meantime, alternate routes and fences have been put in place to enable people to continue to walk the track and stay safe.

***Is Council considering options for niches?***

Waverley Council and the community are developing concepts for the best locations for niches in and around Waverley Cemetery.

***What is the long term plan for the Cemetery?***

Our aim is to preserve the character and heritage of the site, to continue to provide the interment services needed, and ensure we allocate the necessary funds for it to be

maintained into the future.

***Will the community get a chance to have a say?***

Yes. Community consultation will continue to be part of the future planning of Waverley Cemetery.

***Is the Cemetery in financial difficulty?***

In the past, Waverley Cemetery has been a self-funded business, but over the years has accumulated a backlog of infrastructure maintenance.

Since 2008, Council has committed ratepayers' funds towards repairs and maintenance work. The business remains operational, but requires extra funding to address the backlog of infrastructure works. Waverley Council has committed funds in our long term financial plan towards this.

***Why did Council adopt the Conservation Management Plan?***

As of February 2016, Council adopted the draft Conservation Management Plan. Council did this as it had some very significant heritage information that would support Council's case for both State and National Heritage listing, which Council applied for.

***Does Council intend to revive any proposals for a Crematorium or Pavilion?***

Council has no intention of reviving any proposal for a Crematorium or a Pavilion at Waverley Cemetery. Our focus is on preserving the wonderful heritage of Waverley Cemetery.

**More information**

Please contact Paul Sparks, Executive Manager of Clean and Attractive Waverley at [paul.sparks@waverley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:paul.sparks@waverley.nsw.gov.au); or Margaret Diebert, Cemetery Manager at [margaret.diebert@waverley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:margaret.diebert@waverley.nsw.gov.au)